

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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Five Minutes After I Die

By Missionary Norman Lewis
Casilla de Correo 2689, Buenos Aires, Argentina

It is appointed unto men once to die . . . Heb. 9:27

That is what the Bible declares, and it is a truth most of us would have sense enough to recognize, even if the Bible said nothing about it.

But what is death? What happens after a person dies? The answer need not perplex us. Let us go back to the beginning of human history. There in the garden of Eden we see a representative man and woman. They are in a delightful place, the environment is perfect. Adam and Eve have healthful, enjoyable work for their hands to do, and through vital fellowship with the living God their spirits are satisfied.

Only one thing was prohibited to the man, and that restriction was placed upon him, not to needlessly trouble him, much less to cause his fall: rather, it was a necessary means to prove whether his love and obedience to God were genuine. The Lord pointed out to man the fruit of a certain tree with the warning word, "The day that thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die."

The Devil, not long after, came to the man, and insinuated a lie, "Thou shalt not surely die." Adam believed the Devil disbelieved God, and with his wife ate of the fruit. God came down, the sin was exposed, and sentence was pronounced on the guilty pair just as the Lord had promised from the beginning, "In the day thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die."

But we ask, What really happened? We do not see Adam and Eve stricken to earth in physical death, much less did they disappear into nothingness, which some

misguided folks now-a-days say is what happens at death.

What did happen immediately, however, is that the guilty pair were driven out from the presence of the Lord. By that act spiritual death was clearly defined as separation from God.

From that day forward, all human beings living in any other experience than that of personal fellowship with God have been spiritually dead.

With the fact clearly before us that spiritual death means separa-



Rev. Norman Lewis

tion of the soul from God, it is not hard to understand that physical death also means separation—separation of the living personality from the body, or "house" in which the real man dwells. That is what the Apostle Paul is talking about when he says, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle [our body] were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens" (II Cor. 5:1). Paul tells us plainly that our body is just a temporary dwelling place for us, and that when our body finally crumbles in death, we, the living person, must depart into another world.

That experience will come to every person in this world, unless the coming of Jesus prevents it. Therefore, every one of us has a legitimate cause to be interested in these facts.

Be sensible enough to recognize that your going may be sudden. Even if you could be sure of having a few days on a hospital bed before death, it would be a wretched choice to postpone the great issues of your soul until that time. It has been my painful duty to watch people die without Christ, and I declare I would never watch another unsaved person die if I could avoid it. The man was right who said, "The Bible has one case of deathbed repentance in order

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Sensation Versus Stagnation

By the late T. Dewitt Talmage, D.D.

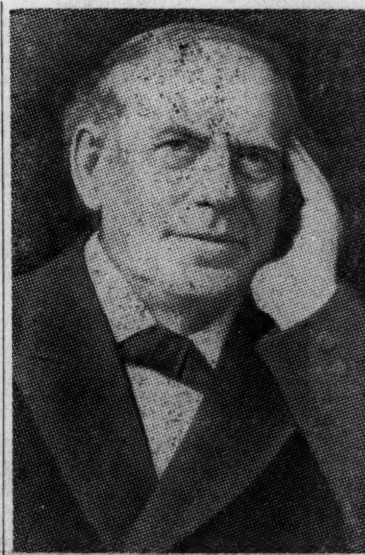
"There arose no small stir about that way."—Acts 19:23

What was the matter? Paul had been preaching some sermons that seemed to upset everything. People wondered what he would do next. What is that great bonfire in the streets of Ephesus? Why, Paul has been preaching against the iniquities of the day until the people have brought out nine thousand dollars' worth of bad books and tumbled them into the fire. There seemed to be no end to his impertinence, for now he is assulting the Temple of Diana, a building twice as large as St. Paul's Cathedral, London; its roof supported of columns of green jasper; its sculptured altars of Praxiteles; its paintings Parthasius, and its audience-room capable of holding thousands of idolaters.

In the month of May when there were a great many strangers in the city, come there to buy medalion representations of that temple, Paul is thundering against it, until he completely ruins the stock of trinkets and spoils the medalion business, and the merchants gather together in a great indignation mass-meeting to denounce him, and say this thing must stop. Never before or since was there such a sensation. Paul was the great disturber of the day. He went to Iconium and made a sensation. He went to Corinth and made a sensation. He went to Jerusalem and made a sensation. In other words, wherever he went, "there was no small stir about that way."

What is a sensation? Noah Webster says it is "an excited state of thought or feeling," and I cannot see anything more valu-

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Dr. T. Dewitt Talmage

Greatest Revivals Yet to Come

By Evangelist John R. Rice

Does the Bible justify the pessimism of those who think there will be no more great revivals? Absolutely not. How happy some would be if they could find in the Bible justification for their false alibis and excuses, justification for their powerlessness and fruitlessness. If there were a verse in the Bible which said there would be no more great revivals, which said that soul winning would become harder and harder, you may be sure that it would be shouted from the housetops by preachers and teachers who win few souls and who do not have revivals. I assure you that the Bible has not a single word to the effect that soul winning will get harder and harder, that revivals will become more difficult or impossible, not a single prophecy that the day of great revivals will pass away before Jesus comes. All that is in the minds of defeated, backslidden, powerless Christians. It is not in the Bible.

Bible Prophecies Uncounted Millions to be Saved in Great Tribulation Revival

In fact the whole trend of the New Testament teaches that we are in the age of great revivals. Jesus promised to the disciples to whom He gave the Great Commission, and to us who should follow them in their work, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Matt. 28:20). When Jesus said, "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father" (John 14:12). He did not even hint that that promise would little by little fail, and that less and less results could be expected. The great promises of fruit-bearing, the promises of answers to prayer, the promise of the endowment of power with the Holy Spirit, are all given to be in effect throughout this whole gospel age. There is not a word in the Bible, I say, to indicate that the gospel will become less effective, that sinners will be harder to win, that revivals will become more difficult or impossible. The contrary is true. And in the next lecture I shall go more fully into that blessed truth that we are now in the age of revivals, in the age of the pouring out of the Holy Spirit, and that all the promises

about revival and soul winning fit as well for us as they did at Pentecost and in the times of the apostles, and in other eras of great revivals. We are in the revival age, and great revivals may be had any time God's people meet God's requirements. But that is another subject.

In this lecture I must show you that the greatest revivals the world is ever to see are yet in the future. Greater revivals are to come than any the world has ever



Dr. John R. Rice

experienced. That is plainly taught in the Word of God, and what a comfort it ought to be to our hearts! When we find that God has plainly promised greater revivals than any the world has yet had, that will certainly prove that the day of revivals is not passed.

The Great Tribulation, a Future Period of Trouble

Jesus told of a coming time which He called the "Great Tribulation." In Matthew 24:21, 22, He said, "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved; but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened." Note that the time coming will be more terrible than any the world has ever seen up until then.

Later in the Olivet discourse Jesus gave us a key as to when this Great Tribulation will be. In Matthew 24:27-31, Jesus said:

"For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For wheresoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together. Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

Here we see that the Lord Jesus was particularly speaking to Jews, (Continued on page 2)

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By the Editor

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Greatest Revival Yet to Come

(Continued from page 1)

and so He told them of the time when He would send forth His angels and gather together His elect (Israelites) from the four winds of the earth. It will be when Jesus is seen visibly, bodily, coming in the clouds of Heaven with power and great glory (vs. 30). But verse 29 tells us that this is to be "immediately after the tribulation." So it appears to me that after the rapture of the saints (when we who are saved will be caught up to meet Him in the air), Jesus will later return with us to the earth, this time to regather Israel and save them and reign on the earth. But the period after the rapture of the saints, while

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we shall be in Heaven with the Saviour, just before He returns to reign, will be the time of the Great Tribulation on earth. This is the teaching of the best premillennial scholars. This is the position of Moody, Torrey, Scofield (in the Scofield Bible), James M. Gray, H. A. Ironside, William Pettingill and Arno Gaebelein. Hence, the Great Tribulation time is yet to come. After every saved person shall be taken away with Jesus, and when the Antichrist himself will rule on the earth, will come the Great Tribulation. There will be so much persecution and trouble and war that it, above all the periods in human history, is to be called the Great Tribulation. The Antichrist will refuse people who do not take his mark the right to buy and sell. Those who get converted under these conditions will surely risk their lives for Christ. And yet, the Bible tells us plainly that in this Great Tribulation there will come the most marvelous revival.

An Innumerable Multitude Will Be Saved in That Tribulation Period

Revelation 7:9-17 gives us a beautiful picture of the converts

of the Great Tribulation revival gathered in Heaven. Let us read that Scripture prayerfully:

"After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might; be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen. And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the

Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of water: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

Here in Heaven are people praising God for salvation. Who are they? They are people who will have been saved during the Great Tribulation.

Two verses here are specially important. Verse 9 tells something of the number of these saved. "After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands." Verse 14 is also important, "And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

In the first part of this same chapter, we have a discussion of 144,000 Israelites who will be converted during this time of the Great Tribulation, from twelve tribes. But aside from the Israelites, here is a "great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues..." who are saved. These will have come out of the Great Tribulation, when we see them assembled in Heaven. They

will have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb.

This Proves Revival Possible in Any Age or Circumstance

It is suggestive that the scene is laid in Heaven. Most of these converted in the tribulation period will have been martyred on earth. No such mighty assembly of Christians can be gathered on earth in those awful days when it will mean death not to take the mark of the Beast. But when these multiplied, uncounted thousands and millions who will be saved during the Great Tribulation are later assembled in Heaven, they will be given the honor due to martyrs, due to those who came to Christ in spite of such temptation and persecution and trouble. These to be converted in the Great Tribulation period will not be allowed to buy nor sell. Many of them will starve. But now we are told that "they shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes" (vs. 16, 17).

Oh, my heart leaps within me as I think of that revival! I am not against counting the numbers. At Pentecost they were counted and found to be about three thousand. But in this blessed revival to come and spread over the whole earth during the reign of the Antichrist, during the tribulation period itself, when true preachers and Christians will have been carried away in the rapture, to Heaven, and the churches will have been taken over by unbelievers, and when it may mean death to turn to Christ—then uncounted multitudes that no man can number from every nation and kindred and tongue and tribe will turn to God. What a revival! Nothing less than millions could be meant by these terms, "a... multitude, which no man could number." Past counting will be the converts in the marvelous revival yet to come in the Great Tribulation.

The Great Tribulation revival, so clearly prophesied in Revelation 7:9-14, proves that the day of great revivals is not passed, shows that the greatest revivals are yet to come.

And this blessed revival also proves that whatever the outward distress, God's people can seek His face and have His power. Whatever the human limitations, we can have revival. We can have revival when it means persecution and death for Christians. We can have revival when the government is wicked and anti-Christian. We can have revival when modernism is everywhere in the saddle. We can have revival, provided God's faithful few pay God's price and have His mighty power!

Thank God for this wonderful revival when such multitudes will be saved in every nation of the world that they will be uncountable! Thank God for the 144,000 Israelites saved to witness for Christ in that period, but thank God still more for the multitudes, the uncountable multitudes, to be saved in every nation, saved among every heathen tribe, every language and dialect. What a revival God will give in the tribulation time!

(Part of Chapter II of new book by Dr. John R. Rice, *We Can Have Revival Now*. First annual series of lectures on revival at Bob Jones University, delivered February, 1950. This epoch-making book of 201 pages now available, Price \$2.)

"WE CAN HAVE REVIVAL NOW" is the name of my brand-new book of ten lectures, the first annual lectures on revival given last February at Bob Jones University. The first copies are getting wonderful reviews and comments from noted men of God. There are 201 pages, the book is well bound and attractively jacketed. We, the Sword of the Lord Publishers, published the book for Bob Jones University. The price is \$2. Join us in prayer that God will use the book to encourage preachers and to show that revivals are not only possible now, but that this is the age of revival.

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Plans have just been completed for another great, heart-warming, life-changing conference on revival and soul winning at Indianapolis, Indiana, beginning on New Year's Eve, December 31, 1950, running through Friday, January 5, 1951. Services will be from 2 to 4 p.m. and from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. on weekdays, with special afternoon rally at 3:00 o'clock and watch-night services on New Year's Eve.

Rev. Ford Porter is the noble pastor of Berean Baptist Church. He is the author of the tract, *God's Simple Plan of Salvation*, which is being used around the world in millions of copies and which has led thousands of people to trust Christ as Saviour. He has an important radio broadcast, is widely-known for his stand of the fundamentals of the faith. Berean Baptist Church will be host to this Sword Conference on Revival and Soul Winning.

Dr. Lee Roberson will speak at the conference two days, Rev. William Dowell, pastor of the High Street Baptist Church in Springfield, Missouri, perhaps the most successful soul-winning pastor in

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the state of Missouri, will be with us three days to speak on such topics as "Using the Word of God to Win Souls," "Building a Great Soul-Winning Church," "Soul Winning Through the Sunday School," "Soul-Winning Visitation and How to Do It," and like themes. He has by far the largest crowds and greatest soul-winning results of any pastor in Springfield, Missouri.

Dr. Lee Roberson is well-known as the president of Tennessee Temple College, Bible School and Seminary, and pastor of the famous Highland Park Baptist Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Other speakers will be announced soon. But plan now to be in this big Sword Conference at Berean Baptist Church, Indianapolis, December 31, 1950-January 5, 1951.

Last Chance for Christmas Subscriptions!

(Continued from page 1)

lady who carried them to her read some of them and she wanted to tell the class, 'It's the best paper I have ever read,' and I have some subscriptions with my own renewal (Sent \$28). Truly it is a wonderful paper. Not a one in our class but me of adult ladies was getting it. I know they have made a wonderful investment . . ."

In a little bit of time this Christian friend got twenty-seven subscriptions for \$28. Now here is a suggestion for anybody who loves the Lord and wants to spread revival fires. Take it up in your Sunday school class of adults or young people, take it up in prayer meeting, or ask the pastor to take it up in the church service. Mention it in the women's missionary society, and offer to take down the names and send in the subscriptions. There are probably thousands of people who read THE SWORD OF THE LORD who feel they cannot send in money for many subscriptions. But they could use their influence and, a little time and interest, and secure many subscriptions among their friends. Just show sample copies of THE SWORD OF THE LORD around, tell what the paper is and does, and tell others of the remarkable rate. One person can send the first \$2.00 subscription and ask others to subscribe at \$1.00 each, if they are all to be sent in at the same time.

Over twenty thousand preachers read THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Hundreds of these preachers write glowing letters telling how they have been blessed through the paper. Then, dear friend, why not mention the matter in the church and see that others have the privilege of subscribing? Many would be willing to put in \$1.00 and receive the paper for a year, if some person will pay the first \$2.00 subscription and will be responsible for sending in names and addresses. Do you love the Lord enough to do that? Dear pastor, we believe it will honor God, will make your work easier, will help to bring revival in your church, will win souls to Christ. Who else will follow the example of Mrs. Roland Kidd of Bennett, N. C.?

Episcopal Daughter-in-Law Saved Through SWORD OF THE LORD

From Silver Spring, Md., this letter came:

"May I just give one instance of how your wonderful paper was instrumental in saving one dear to me?

"My son, who lives in South Bend, Indiana, married a sweet, lovely girl who was brought up in an Episcopal church, and I found it difficult to show her the way of salvation. I just prayed and trusted. I knew my Saviour would answer my prayer. About one year ago THE SWORD was sent to them. A short time later they wrote me that they were reading it, and sent it to me for eight months.

"Two weeks ago I received a letter from my son's wife saying she was saved and was so happy and had such peace as she never knew existed.

"They now take their children and go to a fundamental Baptist church. She says she found the way made plain by the sermons in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. I thank God for preachers who still preach real truths, in these days of modernism, etc.

"I am enclosing check of \$4.00 for which you will please send the paper to each of my brothers for one year."

Wasn't that a wonderful answer to prayer? This godly woman prayed for the sweet daughter-in-law brought up in Episcopal Church. She hardly knew just how to make it clear that religious ceremonies and church membership would not save. But someone sent THE SWORD OF THE LORD and now the daughter-in-law is wonderfully saved and happy in the Lord. They go to a sound, Bible-believing church with their children. "She says she found the way made plain by the sermons in THE SWORD OF THE LORD."

And then this good woman sends \$4.00 for subscriptions for each of her brothers. There is a suggestion for you. That letter was written before the subscription campaign began, so she sent \$2.00 a year for each of her brothers. Now you may send THE SWORD two years for \$3.00 or to two different people for \$3.00. Or you may send four one-year subscriptions for \$5.00, or ten one-year subscriptions for \$11. Send it to all your loved ones. Tell them you want them to have the paper that has blessed your heart. That is a wonderful chance to remember loved ones for Christmas. If you do it, hurry. If you send Christmas gift subscriptions, hurry. Mark each subscription "Christmas Gift" if you want us to send a card announcing that the paper comes as a gift from you. And give your own name and address very clearly, as the donor.

A Single Copy of THE SWORD OF THE LORD His Only Birthday Present

From Jamaica in the British West Indies comes this letter dated November 7.

"Dear Brother Rice, Yesterday was my thirtieth birthday and the only present I got was a copy of THE SWORD OF THE LORD dated Nov. 25, 1949. I think it is the most beautiful present one could ever have given to me.

(Continued on page 4)

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Five Minutes After I Die

(Continued from page 1)

that none may despair, but it has only one in order that none may presume." The man who thinks to burn the whole candle of his life in sin, and then blow the smoke in God's face by a deathbed repentance in order to escape Hell, is almost sure to find too late that he has been deceived, for—says the Bible—"God is not mocked."

And if you die suddenly, what then?

Grafton Harpell was a classmate of mine at Wheaton College. His unusual talents and splendid character gave sure indications of a bright future for his life. One Sunday night, March 10, 1946, he at-

tended the Park Street Church in Boston, after which he talked with some friends, then struck off across the commons for a brief walk alone. He was found face down on the sidewalk by the police about 10:20 p.m.—a cerebral hemorrhage. No sickness, no infirmity, no warning. One minute here, the next in another world. Listen, are you ready for that minute?

Loved ones will weep o'er my silent face,
Dear ones will clasp me in fond embrace,
Shadows and darkness will fill the place,
Five minutes after I die.

Last Chance For Christmas Subscriptions!

(Continued from page 3)

"I am a member of the Anglican Church and oh! how I have always longed that God would send me real comfort, which I have found through your inspiration."

"I desire to be a worker for Christ. Please give me your help and pray that God would make it possible for me to be trained spiritually that I may also go out and win souls for God."

"May God add His richest blessing to the work you do."

"Yours sincerely,

Ike A. Daley

People in Jamaica are often poor, but there are many devout Christians on the island. Here is a man who on his thirtieth birthday received only a single copy of THE SWORD OF THE LORD and he says, "I think it is the most beautiful present one could ever have given to me." Thank God for the grateful heart which realizes that great spiritual inspiration may be much more valuable than an expensive present. This member of the Anglican Church longs to work for Christ and he finds comfort in the gospel as preached in THE SWORD OF THE LORD for which he has longed.

And I will have to confess to you that I could not let this dear brother go without a subscription to THE SWORD OF THE LORD. So I put him on for a subscription from the Minister and Missionary Subscription Fund; I was glad for \$1.00 or more of the money I give to the Fund to be used for the subscription for this hungry-hearted young man. And dear friend, believe me, we have contact day after day with many who long for the blessing which is available in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Help us to send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to ten thousand such people. Many new letters or names come all the time.

University Student's Sister Comes Back to the Lord Through SWORD OF THE LORD Sermons

Here is a letter from a student in Bob Jones University which will bless your heart.

"Dear Brother Rice,
"THE SWORD OF THE LORD has been a rich blessing to me, and I wish to pass it on to others."

"I received a letter today from my sister asking me to renew her order. She has come back to the Lord through the SWORD sermons. At first she did not read the sermons thoroughly. Now she reads them from cover to cover. Thank God for your paper and may the subscription drive be tripled many times."

"May the Lord continue to bless you and your great work in His service."

Don't you know some backslidden friend or loved one who might be revived in heart through THE SWORD OF THE LORD, as hundreds of others have been? Send your subscriptions today while you can send ten one-year subscriptions for only \$11.

Philippino Soul Winner Barred From Sending Money for SWORD; Will You Send It To Him?

From the National Orthopedic Hospital, at Mandaluyong, Rizal in the Philippine Islands comes the

following letter dated October 9, 1950.

"Dear Dr. John Rice,
"The Lord has richly blessed one through THE SWORD OF THE LORD. I enjoyed reading each copy of this magazine. I have been sharing each copy with my friends here. I have won souls for the Lord through it. Praise the Lord for His marvelous work! I have been praying for you and the workers of the Sword of the Lord, that many lost sinners may come to the saving knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through this magazine."

"I knew my subscription expired a month ago. I have been wondering since then how I can renew my subscription. It would be a great loss in my spiritual life if it would be stopped. Our government does not allow us to send out any dollar outside our country, since the Import Control Law was made. I would like very much to respond to any appeal for financial help published in THE SWORD OF THE LORD, but the existing law in my country prevents one from doing it. Regarding my subscription, could you possibly help me? Thank you so much for any help you could extend to me."

In many countries of the world there is a dollar shortage, so that regulations forbid the sending of money out of the country. That is true in the Philippine Islands. But shall we let this earnest-hearted sister go without THE SWORD OF THE LORD? Well, I confess that I do not feel our readers would be content for her to be without the paper which she wants so badly. We are putting her on the subscription list through our Minister and Missionary Subscription Fund. Won't you send along \$10 or \$25 to help in this good work?

Missionary in Nigeria, Africa, Wants Sword

Missionary C. F. Beitzel, of Malumfashi via Funtua says:

"Dear Bro. Rice,
"THE SWORD OF THE LORD has stopped coming and I miss it very much. I thought it would continue as a missionary gift subscription and so did not take care to renew it. I am very sorry."

"Now will you please have it sent to me again and also send me the bill as I do not even have any old copies so do not know the subscription price. Send it for two years, please..."

Missionaries have so little money and I would like to send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to this missionary with the compliments of some Christian in the homeland. He works in the midst of 200,000 precious souls, mostly Mohammedans and he earnestly begs the prayers of THE SWORD OF THE LORD readers.

I have before me this remarkable note; the letters from Jamaica, from the university student, Greenville, S. C., from the Philippine Islands, from the missionary in India and the missionary in Africa. All came in the same day! From all over the world people write to say how they are blessed by THE SWORD OF THE LORD, how they miss it when it does not come. You can make the hearts of missionaries and country preachers and others who do not have much money happy by sending them THE SWORD OF THE LORD. You can stir their hearts with re-

Faces that sorrow I will not see,
Voices that murmur will not reach me,
But where, oh where, will my spirit be,
Five minutes after I die?

There is not much difference in the long run whether you have only eight minutes still to live, or eighty years. A whole life at best is only a short span between two eternities. It is so brief that the Bible says a man's years are as a "tale that is told." It makes sense to look ahead, to think. When you leave this world, you will go out a Christian or a Christ rejector. Just two ways to die, just two roads lie ahead.

Only a Christian, and nobody but a Christian, in all this world of trouble can say with the Apostle Paul, "Having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better" (Phil. 1:23). The reason for Paul's wonderful confidence is not hard to find. The Christian as a human being knows this world in which he lives. Unsaved people also know this world. But the Christian has something more. Through the Bible's plain message and his own experience with Christ he also knows a lot about the wonderful world to which he will go when he leaves this life, and that is the reason Paul could say, "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord" (II Cor. 5:8). That is death for the Christian: Absent from the body, yes, but present with the Lord; "With Christ which is far better."

Now, what about the unsaved person? What happens when he dies? For him the facts are just as plain, but awfully sad! Our Lord Jesus Christ reports the death of

vival fires. You can give them suggestions and helps for preaching and teaching. And you can let them know that the people at home have not forgotten them as they carry their heavy load of the frontier missionary, or the pastor in the homeland. Native Christian workers far and near, along with thousands of pastors who are not yet acquainted with THE SWORD OF THE LORD, should have someone pay for their subscription.

That leads me to say that pastors for whom others have subscribed ought immediately, if possible, to subscribe for others. No man ought to be content to ride along with others carrying the load. Others have helped you, now you should help others. Send subscriptions for others, or send a gift to our Missionary and Minister Subscription Fund, and do it as quickly as you can.

We know, from past experience, what THE SWORD OF THE LORD will do in winning souls, in strengthening the faith of Christians, in starting revival fires, in helping people to be sound in doctrine and separated and consecrated in life. We know, for thousands upon thousands of letters have told us of the blessings brought by this, America's foremost revival weekly, THE SWORD OF THE LORD! We ask you in Jesus' name to help us get this blessing out to others. We are trying to get 100,000 paid subscribers. Will you do your part?

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Remember to send one more dollar than the number of one-year subscriptions. For example, send \$11 for ten one-year subscriptions, or \$51 for fifty one-year subscriptions, or \$3.00 for two one-year subscriptions. Mark renewal subscriptions "renewal." Rush Christmas gift subscriptions and mark them "Christmas Gift" if you want us to send the card announcing that you are sending the subscription as a Christmas gift.

Send all subscriptions to The Sword of the Lord Publishers, 214 W. Wesley, Wheaton, Illinois. Send them with a prayer, and do it in time. Hurry! and God bless you.

a certain rich man. He tells how the man died, was buried, "and in Hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torment." Remember, sinner, the same tender lips that pleaded from the Cross, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do"—those same lips describe the pleas of a lost man in Hell: "Have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame."

Does it not move you to think that the Lord who died to save us from that awful fate here warns us of its horror? Jesus says the rich man was tormented in Hell. Jesus says that the man suffered for want of a drop of water. Jesus says the man was in flames. Friends, you may do as you will, but for my part, I take the whole word of Jesus Christ as very truth, and pray God to help me tell it out to all men in saving power.

Is it sensible to turn a deaf ear to Christ? Surely not. A man is not smart who will live for one world alone.

Some years ago a wealthy banker in Lincoln, Nebraska, built himself a palatial home. The architect provided every comfort money could buy. Fourteen rooms had fireplaces. Every fixture and furnishing was magnificent. A friend of my father's was invited to look through the house. After having admired its beauty and elegance, the visitor was amazed. He said, "You certainly have a marvelous house here. You have omitted absolutely nothing of beauty, or convenience, or luxury."

The owner replied, "Yes, it's a fine house, but I did forget one thing."

"And what is that?"

"Well"—he continued—"I should have built a bird cage near the front door."

"A bird cage? I do not understand?"

"Yes,"—came the bitter reply—"I should have built a cage near the front door for a parrot, and taught him to say every time I went in or out, 'You are a damned fool. You are a damned fool.' " He was a prominent and wealthy banker, but those words were his estimate of himself as he neared the close of life.

"Thus saith the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord" (Jer. 9:23,24).

Don't live for one world only. Take Jesus Christ into your heart and life; He will guide you and

give you power to live triumphantly. You can know God now, and you can be sure of being with Him through a glorious eternity. Any other choice makes death, as the infidel said, "a leap in the dark."

The story is widely told, and rightly so, of the ancient king and his court jester. The buffoon captivated the fancy of his monarch in such a way that he was presented by the king with an elegant baton, and the instructions, "You are to keep this rod until you find a man more foolish than yourself." Time passed and the king fell sick.

The jester was called in and found his monarch in great agony. "What is the trouble?" he asked.

(Continued on page 5)

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Five Minutes After I Die

(Continued from page 4)

"Oh"—said the king—"I feel very ill, and fear I am about to go on a long journey."

"When will you return?" asked the jester.

"Never," said the king.

"What do you know about the country to which you are going?"

"Nothing."

"What preparation have you made for the journey?"

"None."

Solemnly the jester extended the elegant baton. "Your Excellency"—he began—"you told me to keep this rod until I found a man more foolish than myself. You have just told me you are about to take a trip from which you will never return, to a country about which you know nothing, on a journey for which you have made no preparation. Here, take the rod."

No man needs to be like that king. The Bible plainly tells us what to expect, and how to pre-

pare for the journey ahead. For one thing, you can mark down that

You Won't Go to Sleep

The Apostle Paul talked about death and made it very clear he did not look forward to taking a nap. When Paul talks with enthusiasm about his desire "to depart and be with Christ, which is far better," there is not the faintest suggestion he is talking about a gentle slumber.

Nor do the unsaved dead "sleep." The rich man who died without Christ did not "rest in peace." When cowardly, time-serving preachers today use that kind of pompous language in a funeral sermon about a person they well know has died, giving no evidence of personal faith in Christ, such language is but empty prating, with no Bible basis. God's book says, "The rich man died, and was buried, and in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torment."

The idea that the soul sleeps after death belongs to several false doctrines, yet the truth of the matter is one of the simplest things the Bible reveals. When in the New Testament the word "sleep" is used in connection with death, it always refers to the bodies of Christians. God from the beginning of time has decreed that at death: "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it" (Eccles. 12:7). The Bible plainly tells us that after death the body sleeps in the silent dust until at the word of the Lord

Jesus Christ, it is called forth from the tomb unto judgment.

The Bible further says

You Won't Have Another Chance

"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (II Cor. 6:2). You are setting your course for eternity here. What you do here and now about God's offer of pardon will determine your eternal destiny. Pontius Pilate put the great question of all the ages before men when he said, "What shall I do then with Jesus, which is called Christ?" (Matt. 27:22). You may make a mistake about a thousand other things with little loss. But don't make a mistake about Jesus Christ. If death catches you in that error, you will never have another chance.

Wise old Solomon said, "If the tree fall toward the south, or toward the north, in the place where the tree falleth, there it shall be" (Eccles. 11:3). Nothing so unwise as to think you can scoff at God's grace here, and afterward find your way into Heaven. Oh that the words of Abraham to the rich man in Hell might burn in the heart of every unsaved soul! "Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime. . . . It is here and now that every man is asked to open his heart to Jesus Christ and let the King of Glory enter in.

*Oh, what a fool—hard the word but true,
Passing the Saviour with death in view,
Doing a deed I can ne'er undo,
Five minutes after I die.*

*If I am flinging a fortune away,
If I am wasting salvation's day,
"Just is my sentence," my soul shall say,
Five minutes after I die.*

It is great mercy from God that offers man salvation now, and

Glory By and By

No mortal pen has ever written words to reach the Christian's heart like those of Jesus, "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (John 14:13). How many thousands of souls, do you suppose, with the comfort of that promise have closed their eyes on scenes of this world to open them in the City of Light, in the presence of the Lord!

I remember reading of a retired millionaire who, although he had no sons, had three daughters.

My Christmas Gift List

Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor
214 W. Wesley, Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

Please send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to the following addresses for the time specified, at the rate of \$2.00 for the first one-year subscription and \$1.00 a year for subscriptions thereafter. Please send a greeting card with the signature I have indicated.

NOTE: Please add 50 cents each per year for Canadian and Foreign subscriptions.

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There is More Space on the Reverse side

The daughters were grown and already had homes of their own when the father decided to build a more wonderful mansion. He first built a magnificent home for himself and his wife. But that was not all. Into the one great mansion he built three other lovely homes, separate and distinct, each luxuriously furnished. Then calling his daughters, he gave to each two keys with the words, "The first is the key to the outside door of your father's house and the second is the key to your own home within your father's house. Your home will always be kept ready, and whenever you come to the city you will always live in your father's house, but in your own mansion."

Does it not speak of the glorious mansions within the Father's house, which Jesus has been preparing throughout nineteen hundred years of time? On October 21, 1934, I accepted Him as my Saviour and Lord, and He has promised me by His grace the enjoyment of a heavenly home. Oh, who can tell me what it will be to dwell in that heavenly land with my dearest friends who have loved and served Christ. There, together, we will serve and enjoy Him forever.

Some of us have experienced painful human partings, and we are looking forward to a great meeting over there. Five years have rolled away since I last gripped my father's hand, looked into his fine face and clear eyes, as he swung aboard the train which was to take him to New York, and then on to Africa by boat, on a mission of mercy for the Lord Jesus. Shortly afterward our King's command, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature," moved me away from the United States to work for Jesus here in far-off Argentina. Mind you, I love my Dad. No father and son ever had closer fellowship, or enjoyed each other more than we have through the years. It is not easy for me to think he may close his eyes on this world before I see him again. But listen, I'm not blue, nor am I asking for sympathy. I have the promise of Jesus, "I go to prepare a place for you. . . . that where I am, there ye may be also." Jesus has prepared us an eternal home where we will be together always. Better open your heart to Jesus right now, and as the old hymn says, "Come and go with me, to my Father's house, where the many mansions be."

Why not call on Jesus right now? He is the sinner's friend and waits this very moment to be your Saviour. If you will rest your case with Him, and put your whole trust in the fact that He died on the cross to save you, He will come into your heart and will take away your fear of death. If this is your decision why not sign your name and write to tell us you have accepted the Saviour?

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Dr. Daniels has made three trips to his so-called heavens; interviewed him 2½ hours; talked with those claiming to be raised from the dead, and wrote to doctors to verify their deaths; talked with those claiming to be Moses, Abraham, Job, brought back from the dead. He has written this 17-chapter book, containing 15 photographs, exposing this false christ of Bible prophecy. It is packed with Bible truth, contrasted with the false teachings of this self-styled god.



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Rev. J. Powers Pullen of Danville, Virginia, writes as follows:

"Dear Brother:

"Allow me to state that I am a graduate of a state university, have studied in two other institutions of learning, but they have not interested me like your SWORD OF THE LORD has. As a preacher in my church (Methodist) I can't get along without your SWORD OF THE LORD. Every preacher should have it."

May God bless our good Methodist brother who loves THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Yes, we really believe that to many preachers the inspiration and Bible knowledge and helps in soul winning and

preaching which are found in THE SWORD OF THE LORD help more in serving the Lord than college and seminary training. We are not against the colleges and seminaries, but we just feel that nothing in the world will take the place of revival fire and emphasis upon the power of the Word of God, upon the power of the Holy Spirit, and upon soul winning. The preacher who has education but does not preach the Word of God or who preaches the Word of God but without power is as sounding brass and a tinkling symbol.

Oh, we feel a burden to help preachers! Be sure that you help to get THE SWORD OF THE LORD into the hands and hearts and

must have something to eat, and they have no patience with an entertainment which is all made up of napkin-ring, finger-bowl, and red-tape. I put the complaint that the people do not like to come to church where it belongs.

I say to the young men who are entering the ministry, if you want an audience, do as Paul did in my text—make a big stir. "There arose no small stir about that way." Men want help. Give them help and they will come again. What do they care about the conventionalities of religion? How much of your Latin do they understand? What do they know about those sasqui pedalion words that crawl through your senses like

thousand-legged worms? They know that your chief anxiety is lest you lose your place in your notes. They know it is all a matter of calculation that the soap-lock curl comes down half way on your forehead, so that at the right moment you may brush it away with a hand delicate and diamond-ed. What do they care about your Arian controversy when the controversy with them is how they can pay a note of \$500 with \$200, and how they can get comfort for the child they buried yesterday in Greenwood. I judge other people by myself. I cannot keep awake in a religious service where there is no practicality.

(Continued on page 7)

ministries of servants of God of all denominations!

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SARAH EL-AMIR

Yesterday—Tears

SARAH EL-AMIR (meaning the daughter of a prince) was found in a wretched, crowded refugee camp by Missionaries of our Bethlehem Christian Approach Mission. She was an orphan, both parents were killed in the battle for Beersheba. She was dressed in rags, her hair matted, full of nits and lice, her body thin, sick and undernourished and her eyes showed definite traces of the dreaded trachoma. SARAH was only six years old. She had gone hungry and cold. She had begged for food among the refugees for nearly two years. Her bare existence revealed a life of tears and suffering, without love, care or a friend.

THIS DAUGHTER OF A PRINCE was too sick to smile as her picture was made the day we brought her to our Orphan Home. Her every childish expression was that of depression and grief. In so many ways SARAH was like the other 200 orphan children whom we have rescued from starvation and disease, as they begged for food in the streets and among the thousands of refugees.

NOW SARAH HAS BEEN GIVEN A CHRISTIAN HOME, good food, medical attention, clothing, a warm bed and loving care in our Bethlehem Orphan Home. The smile of joy, health and happiness shown in her picture of today is in itself a reward fourfold for what we have been able to do in this one phase of our Christian Approach ministry among the peoples of Palestine.



Today—Smiles



Rev. Ralph E. Baney, Gen. Secy.
Society of Christian Approach

The ministry of our Christian Approach Mission in Palestine has, for the past years conducted various phases of missionary work—Mission Services, Sunday Schools, Free Medical Clinics, a Leper Home, Blind Home and Orphanage.

The most promising opportunity for Christian service is our new Bethlehem Orphan Home; the loving care and training of these 200 orphan boys and girls today, that tomorrow they may become 200 Christian men and women—missionaries among their own people. We found many of these children like Sarah, who came from all over Palestine—from Haifa, Tel Aviv, Nazareth, Jerusalem, Beersheba and Bethlehem.

Have you ever seen the rapture of a lonely, hungry orphan child when given a meal to satisfy his hunger? Have you ever known the radiant joy of an abandoned orphan child when given a warm, clean bed and clothing after being cold and almost naked, hovering in a deserted cave? Have you ever felt the piercing eyes of a sick, unwanted orphan baby and how they reveal the greatest expression of love and gratitude in return for the least act of kindness and loving care?

Will you join with us to give these orphan children shelter, food and a Christian home? As an individual, family, church or group can you adopt one of these children in our Bethlehem Orphan Home for \$10.00 a month. As a foster parent you will receive a case history and photograph of your child. Correspondence through our Mission office is also encouraged. This child will not ask for presents of toys and dolls, only for bread to satisfy his hunger and clothing to replace his tattered rags. Won't you, in remembrance of the Christ Child this Christmas, adopt a little boy or girl of Bethlehem as your own through our Bethlehem Orphan Home.

Sensation Versus Stagnation

(Continued from page 1)

able than that, if the excitement of thought and feeling be in the right direction. But as the word "conservatism" has been twisted from its noble sense to mean a stupid do-nothingism, and as "liberalism" has been twisted from meaning generous treatment of opinions of others to mean a surrender of Christianity, so the word "sensation" has sometimes been twisted to mean everything erratic and reprehensible. But this I do declare: No one ever accomplished any good for church or State without exciting a sensation.

Sensation is life. Stagnation is death. When sometimes I have been charged with making a sensation I have taken it as complimentary, and I have wished that the charge were more thoroughly true, and I promise, if God will help me, in the future I will make it more accurate!

The Wickedness of Dull Church Services

I go on in this anniversary discourse, begun last Sabbath, and today speak to you chiefly of sensation versus stagnation. When I was a layman, worshipping in the pews, I noticed that religion was very often associated with dullness. I noticed in political conventions where the Governor of the State was to be nominated, all the people were wide awake; but when they came into religious assemblages where Christ was to get coronation, many were somnolent. I saw that in assemblages where financial questions were being discussed people were all attention; but when, in religious assemblages, the question was whether men should be forever mansioned or forever pauperized, there was but little alertness. I noticed in the court-room that when one man was on trial for his life, there was agitation and enthusiasm; but when in religious assemblage the eternal life of five hundred was being discussed, then there was somnolence. I noticed what every layman notices and remarks, that there is something radically wrong in the church of God at this day.

In our boyhood days we tried every kind of art to keep awake in church. We ate caraway-seed, and cloves, and cinnamon, and held up one foot until it began

to ache, and pinched ourselves until we were black and blue, or got stimulus from an older brother who stuck us with a pin, or saw the reproving look of some older sister that filled us with a sense of self-abnegation, until we looked up to the elders' and deacons' pew in the old Dutch church, and saw the seven sleepers (!) these consecrated men having lost their hold at the end of the second head of the discourse, and then we felt encouraged to think that, after all, there might be some chance for us when such very good men got asleep.

What is the use of hiding the fact that there is more sleeping done in the churches than in any other kind of buildings? Many of our churches are great Sunday dormitories. Men who are troubled at home with insomnia and cannot sleep on the pillow at night, find in churches sometimes the needed anodyne. What morphine and chloral and pillow of hops cannot do, sometimes the sermon and the long prayer accomplish. Said the old Puritan clergyman, "And now, to be brief, eighteenthly!" Oh, how many arts to appear awake in church! You have seen men put their heads down on the pew in front, pretending they overcome with emotion, when they are really overcome with drowsiness. I tell you if we do not keep our audiences awake, it is the fault of us, the clergy, and not the fault of the people.

Preachers Responsible to Make a Stir Like Paul

An old Scotch minister, preaching, saw one of his hearers sound asleep, and he said: "Donald, wake up; if you can't keep awake in any other way, take a pinch of snuff." "Ah!" said Donald, "Doctor, put the pinch of snuff in the sermon!" With all the artillery of eternity at hand, if a man cannot keep his audience awake, it is because he has missed his calling. When men keep taking out their watches during religious services, it is evidence of the fact that they are bored. What would you think of a man at a banquet taking out his watch every few moments to see how soon he could stop eating a cream meringue? The gospel is a banquet, and our populations are starving for it, and their souls

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B. I cannot "adopt" a child, but I would like to help a Bethlehem orphan with my Christmas gift of \$_____.

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Sensation Versus Stagnation

(Continued from page 6)

I went into a beautiful church for worship. I sat down. The church was not only beautiful, but the singing was beautiful, the sermon was beautiful, the organ was beautiful, the minister was beautiful; but there came over me a spirit of somnolence, and I made manful resistance, and after a while I said to my companions, "No use, I can hold out no longer," and I put my head down on the pew in front, and had one of the most refreshing slumbers in all my life! I committed no sin. The man who stood there for three-quarters of an hour with poises, and didactics heavy as lead, was the criminal. As long as we stick to the mere technicalities of religion in our churches, a few people may come because it has been eternally decreed that they should come; but the great masses of the people will not come any more than they would come and sit down in an ice-house, or accept an invitation to spend an evening in the vault of a cemetery.

My friends, the great battle in this country is to be fought, not between Christianity and infidelity, but it is to be fought between honest Christian sensation and

putrid stagnation. Let the churches of God wake up, hoist their banners, blow the trumpet, give the battleshout, and in twenty years the earth will be the Lord's. It is high time we brought up the cavalry. The big guns are stuck in the mud. The great danger for the church of God in this day is not sensation, but stagnation. Sensation is life. Stagnation is death. As I told you in the beginning of this discourse last Sabbath, that my first resolution had been to preach a religion six thousand years old appropriate to the present time, so I now tell you in the second place, that it has been my resolution, God helping me, never to be dull.

The Tragedy of Dry Theology, Commonplace Orthodoxy Without Humor, Tears, Laughter, Sarcasm, Imagination or Glory!

There is something in our health, there is something in our lack of ventilation that makes us dull. The reason that ministers are the most merciless critics in all the world is not because their hearts are any worse, but because so many of them are troubled with

indigestion. The entire draft is on the nervous system, and much of their life is a sedentary life, and it is almost impossible for some of them to keep well. When I was editor of a religious newspaper and a book came in that I thought ought to be cut to pieces, I always handed it over to a clerical critic who had the worst dyspepsia, and he always cut it to pieces, and cut it to pieces enough. Let us, however, whatever the state of our health be, always fight against dullness, whether in the pew or in the pulpit—whether in the Sunday school or in the prayer meeting, and for that reason let us marshal all our faculties. If we have logical faculty, harness that. If imagination, harness that. If humor, harness that. If physical exuberance, harness that. There is not anything that is available, in a parlor, or on a lecturing platform, in the art of persuading people to right feeling and right action that is not appropriate for the pulpit.

I shall before long preach a sermon on the sarcasm of the Bible. Elijah used it. Paul used it. Christ used it. If a man say a thing in church merely to make people laugh, he is reprehensible; but if he say a thing so strikingly true that people do laugh, that is another thing. I do not care whether they cry, or laugh, or hiss, or applaud, or get up and go out, or what they do, if they only quit sin and with fleet foot start for Heaven. For this purpose we must ransack the mineral, the botanical,

the agricultural, the aesthetic, the scientific, the poetic, the literary, the historical, the astronomical worlds for illustration. If we cannot get anything better than two flints, we must smite them together and strike fire. In vain the gold chasing on the hilt of the sword, if the edge of it is not sharp enough to cut. In vain the \$100 rod and reel from Conroy's with fly of gold pheasant or gray drake, if we cannot catch anything. In vain the expense of the collegiate and theological education of seven or ten years, if we get hopelessly buried in our own armor.

During the last war I was chaplain for a few weeks in a Pennsylvania regiment, and I was told one day that there was a cavalryman sick and wounded, and perhaps dying, in a barn four or five miles away. I walked over to see if I could be of any service to him. He asked me to take his horse, which was suffering from lack of attention, and his entire equipment up to headquarters at Hagerstown. I consented, but knew not what I was undertaking, for I had on and around me on the horse a heavy sword, a carbine, pistols, saddle-bags, and a great many other things I knew not the names of, and I was so overloaded I had to go on a slow walk and hold fast to the pommel of the McClellan saddle, and when I got half way up to headquarters the girth broke, and I went off, and it was a great job to get loaded up again. In the woods all around about there were stragglers from the Confederate army, but they did not seem at all affrighted at my warlike appearance! When I rode up to the encampment, and the boys gave three cheers for the chaplain who had been so brave as to capture a horse, my embarrassment exceeded my exhilaration.

But I was then in the condition in which a multitude of us are in the ministry today—loaded up with equipment enough to slay Apollyon, yet we cannot wield it, and we go along on a slow walk, afraid that our system of didactic theology will fall off on one side, or our church history or homiletics will fall off on the other side—carefully guarding to keep our theology right side up, while David felled Goliath with a shepherd-boy's sling, and Shamgar slew six hundred men with an ox-goad. I believe in the day of eternity it will be found out that some backwoods Methodist minister who never had but three months' education in his life, but set all the prairies on fire with zeal for God, and in the summer preached to his audience in his shirt-sleeves, will be found to have done more for the race than some of us who have all the titles of the schools, and who wrap around us the gowns and the bands and the surplices, which are not enough to keep us from freezing to death in an ecclesiasticism twenty degrees below zero!

Preach the Essentials; Preach What You Know; Leave Out Guesses, Theories and Abstractions

But I go further and tell you in this anniversary sermon that in the decade through which we have passed I have tried to carry out the resolution of never explaining to you what I do not understand myself. I believe in God's sovereignty and man's free agency. Harmonize them I cannot. I believe God is one, and yet in three persons. How that can be I know not. I believe that Christ had in His nature the divine and the human. How they were interjoined I cannot explain. For years I tried to explain these things, but I found that the greatest undertaking of my life was to make other people understand that which was beyond my comprehension. Sometimes when I had preached on the subject and hoped that it was plainer to the people than it was to myself, and pronounced the benediction, some plain man at the foot of the pulpit would ask me a question which would confound me, and I would have to tell him I would see him some other time!

Now, there are some things that I do know. Sin is wrong; that I know. Christ came to help us out of it; that I know. Christ has a sympathy compared with which fatherly and motherly compassion is cruelty; that I know. His grace is mighty for mightiest calamity;

that I know. The religion of Jesus Christ kindles in the soul great expectations amounting to a supernatural glee; that I know. That religion is a sedative to soothe all nervous perturbation, that it is a stimulus to arouse inertia, that it pulls up by the root the red dahlia of war, and plants instead thereof the white lily of peace; that I know. That it hangs around the dying couch of the Christian the saffron, and orange, and purple clouds of a heavenly sunrise, and swings back the gates of glory so wide that they shiver the gates of the sepulcher; that I know.

Now, knowing these things beyond all controversy, knowing them beyond all mistake, knowing them from my own experience or from my own observation, what is the use of my taking your precious time and my precious time in telling you what I do not know? We had a great fire at my house the other day. I burned up five hundred manuscript sermons, for when I began to preach I wrote out all my sermons, word for word. In those sermons that I burned up I explained all the mysteries of religion, and the doctrine of election was as clear as a Scotch mist or a San Francisco fog. As I stood by the kitchen fire where these manuscripts were burning, I really thought they threw out more warmth than they had ever thrown out before!

The Fire of God Is Never Dull

Really, the best thing you can do with any style of Christian work that has not warmth in it is to burn it. The pulpit and the church ought to be a great fireplace around which the people, benumbed of the cold world, can come and warm their entire nature. Stir up the fire around the great back-log and bring all the chairs up closer. There is a severe irony in the usual term descriptive of a minister's notes when they are called a minister's skeleton. Cold statements of truth are skeletons that need round them the warmth, the life, and the eternal sympathy of Christ's gospel. There is nothing in romance or novel so enchanting as the religion of Christ, if you see it fairly; but put it down on the dissecting-table of sharp analysis and rip its heart out, and you have made it loathsome and a corpse.

Denunciation of Sin With Holy Earnestness Will Awake the Church, Will Convict Sinners

Again, my dear people, in this decade in which it has been my happiness to administer to you, it has been my resolution to smite sin wherever I see it, reckless of the consequences. The reason sin triumphs in this country is because we do not call it by the right name. Ministers of the gospel were intended to be the Lord's artillerymen, and to fire away at iniquity wherever they see it, and let other people provide the ambulances.

What has been the cause of the excitement over the sermons I have been preaching for the last three or four months? Because they were awfully true. You see a group of dogs fighting on the commons, and you throw a stone at them. Which one howls? The one that is hit. The worst sign of the times is that the public makes so many ministers hush up. You might as well try to stop Asiatic cholera, or yellow fever at Grenada and New Orleans, by saying nothing about them. In order that I might take straighter aim at iniquity, I went and explored the dark places of our cities. The common sense of the church and of the State approved what I had done. Any man's common sense, if he allowed his common sense to come up, said: "You can not forcibly assault iniquity until you see it." But there were some who did not like the way. They thought I ought to have gone down on Brooklyn Heights, and loaded my gun with blank cartridges, and then aimed over at the Fourth ward, New York, and then turned my head the other way, and shut my eyes and pulled the trigger, and then started for South Bushwick! Because I did not do that way there were some ministers almost frantic about my exploration of city life. They believed in the ex-

(Continued on page 8)

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Next to the Bible

The Baptist Bulletin for October reviewed the seventh edition of the book, *Prayer—Asking and Receiving*, by Evangelist John R. Rice. *The Baptist Bulletin*, the official organ of the Association of Regular Baptist Churches published the following most gracious review which we deeply appreciate:

"This volume is probably the greatest stimulant to believing and effectual prayer to be found in print outside the pages of the Bible itself. Thoroughly scriptural in its treatment of the subject of prayer, its nature, basis, conditions, etc., it is also replete with inspiring testimonies and examples of answered prayer.

"The book contains twenty-one chapters, each of them so intriguing and stimulating that the interest of the reader is carried along from chapter to chapter, so that many readers have testified they were unable to lay the book aside before completing it except to take time off from reading to practice the things of which they read. If the faith needs strengthening, the prayer-life needs stimulating, this book will certainly be a blessing to you as it has to thousands of others. As you might gather from that reference to the blessing it has been to others, this is not a new book; this is the seventh edition, and brings the number of copies to 120,000, which is a more convincing testimony to the worth of the volume than any comment this reviewer might be able to make."

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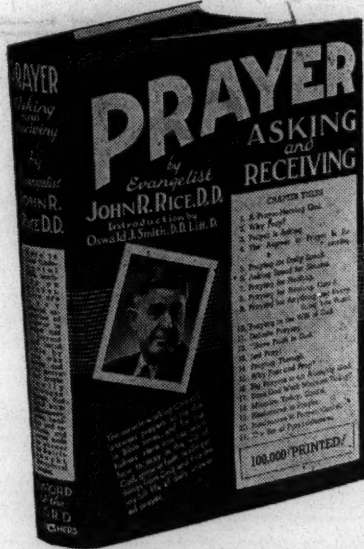
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Sensation Versus Stagnation

(Continued from page 7)

ploration of Africa by Stanley, and the exploration of the heart of the North American continent by Fremont, but were afraid of the exploration of worse heathenism within five minutes of the City Hall of Brooklyn and within five minutes of Broadway, New York.

To hear some of my dear Brethren talk, you would have supposed I had been the first clergyman that had ever made an exploration of underground life in our great cities. Why I could call off the names of scores of ministers and evangelists in the country who have made the same tour. The police who took me around those nights told me they had taken them around on the same rounds. I could make a big disturbance, if I had the heart, in a great many churches in Brooklyn and New York; but I never make any disturbance! The difference between my exploration and the exploration of these other dear brethren was, that they said nothing about it, except among ministerial brethren, while I uttered it in the hearing of my people, announcing the thunders of the Lord God Almighty against the crimes and warning the young men of this country to look out. The bar of God will decide which was the better plan—to look at iniquity and say nothing about it, or to look at iniquity and give the warning, not only so far as I may reach from this platform, but through these journalists, whom I shall, to the day of my death, thank for their kindness.

I preached some years ago in this place, about the average American theater, and the people all over said: "Why you are talking about the theater, the historical theater as it was two or three hundred years ago; if you want to see the theater as it is now, or know about it, go and look for yourself." I saw there was force in the criticism, and I tell you if ever I treat those subjects again I shall first personally make a tour of the theaters, and I shall see who is there and I shall see what kind of plays they have. I am done looking through other people's spectacles! God has given me two first-rate eyes, and I am going to use them. But whether I denounce sin, or commend Christ to you, my dear congregation, I will always choose the most startling and arousing theme I can find,

and bring to it the most startling and arousing illustrations I can think of, trying to produce the most startling and arousing results, willing, if I can save men, to be called by all the world a sensationalist. In this great lawsuit between Sin, Sensation, the plaintiff, versus Stagnation, the defendant, I appear as attorney for the plaintiff.

The Tremendous Theme of the Gospel—Eternal Salvation

But once more and this will close these anniversary thoughts which I have been presenting for two Sabbaths. I have tried to present to you a religion which would not leave a man in the lurch. What was the trouble with those trains that came out from Chicago a week ago last Thursday? They started out beautifully and swiftly, but they came to the snow-banks and stopped, and the trains were disbanded. Oh! my friends, we want to get on a through train. We do not want a religion which takes us smoothly through this life merely for a few miles on earth, and then puts us out at the snow-bank of a cheerless grave. No! You may take that train. I will not take it. I will start on a highway where the marble of the tomb is the only mile-stone on a road always brightening and improving. "Come with us and we will do you good; for the Lord hath promised good concerning Israel."

I have told the men who feel themselves to be the worst, that Christ died for them, and they have come. And now this morning, I want you all to join me on this path to Heaven. It is all tracked up. Examine these tracks in the dust of the road. Ah! those are little feet that have been tracking the road. Have you lost children? They went up this way. I see their tracks on the road. But here there are larger footsteps but footsteps that were very short—very short steps, as though they were the steps of the aged. Is your father gone? Is your mother gone? They went up this way. And behold! in the track of the road I see the mark of a foot that was bare and a scar in the hollow of the foot. Oh! it was the footstep of a wounded Christ. This is the way—walk ye in it.

(From the book, *The Masque Torn Off*, by Dr. Talmage.)

Dr. Bob Jones Says:

We wish to pass on to our friends a letter which we received a few days ago. We quote: "My two children put aside some of their weekly allowance for the Lord Jesus, and they have decided to send some of it to the Bob Jones University Student Loan Endowment Fund, along with the small amount I am sending. Mary (age 11) sends one dollar, and David (age 7) sends fifty cents. They hope to attend Bob Jones University when they grow up. God bless you all in your wonderful work, and I'll send some more later."

This type of letter not only makes us appreciate in a wonderful way God's people, and He has a great many of them scattered around over the world, but it also causes all of us here at Bob Jones University to renew, by the grace of God, our determination to keep this institution just like it is until these little children grow up and are ready for college. As far as possible, Bob Jones University has been hedged about with every spiritual protection. As long as the laws of our country hold, anybody can come in and close this school at any time if it ever fails to be loyal to the creed upon which the school was founded. We want our friends who are investing their money in the Student Loan Endowment Fund to know that this is one place that we are sure will never betray the confidence that Christian people have manifested in the institution by investing money in our Student Loan Endowment Fund and in the building program of the school. I know one institution in America to which I gave \$300 when I was just a young struggling preacher, and I gave

it on the assurance that that school was an orthodox institution, and it has become one of the most modernistic institutions on this continent. That institution got my money under false pretenses. I want you Christian people to know that as long as this government holds and there is one courageous Christian in America, Bob Jones University can be put out of existence and be sold and the money used for some orthodox, evangelical cause if the institution ever permits a modernist to teach here or if it ever goes back on the creed which is written into the charter of the institution.

You Christian people, please pray for us. We are going to keep the faith at Bob Jones University. Please help us with our Student Loan Endowment Fund, and please help us before this year closes with as large a contribution as you can possibly make. If you cannot do much, do something. Some of you can give generously. Some of you cannot give much. But all can give something.

We will accept every penny you send as a gift from God, and we will not "double-cross" you or our Heavenly Father in the way we handle the money. We appreciate what some of you friends have done for us, and we hope you will keep on doing all you can. You folks who have not done anything, I hope you will make an investment before this year closes. So how about sending some contribution immediately? God bless you.

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Compiled by Porter Routh

From THE SURVEY BULLETIN, Sunday
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vention, Nashville 3, Tennessee.

During the first nine months of 1950, there have been 2,643,000 births reported compared with 2,669,000 for the same period in 1949. There have been 1,086,812 marriages during the first eight months, a gain over the 1,067,883 reported during the same period in 1949.

In the 16 states reporting divorces, there were only 95 per cent as many divorces in the first eight months of 1950 as reported during the same period in 1949.

Dividend payments of American corporations issuing public reports aggregated \$1,152 million in September as compared with \$721 million in September, 1949.

It is reported that 7,213,000 American families now own television sets.

A recent survey shows that the average urban family makes 149.1 trips away from home while the average rural family makes 131.1 trips away from home during a 30 day period.

And a study of 159 corporations reveals that 36 per cent of the presidents spent their entire working lives with just one company. Of the presidents who worked for a single company, the average number of years it took them to attain the position was 26 years.

The American Association of Universities has heard a warning that the institutions of higher learning are about to be hit by a "financial hurricane."

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